#### **BEFORE**

#### THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2019-55-T - ORDER NO. 2019-283

MAY 2, 2019

IN RE:	Application of The Moving Squad LLC for a	)	ORDER GRANTING
	Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of	)	CLASS E (HOUSEHOLD
	Public Convenience and Necessity for	)	GOODS) CERTIFICATE
	Operation of Motor Vehicle Carrier	)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the Application of The Moving Squad LLC ("Applicant" or "The Moving Squad") for a Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC&N"). Applicant seeks a CPC&N with authority to move household goods throughout the state. Notice of this Application was timely published pursuant to S.C. Code Reg. 103-132 on February 27, 2019. No third parties intervened, and a hearing on the Application was held on April 17, 2019.

The parties at the hearing were the Applicant, represented by Charles L.A. Terreni, and the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS"), represented by C. Lessie Hammonds and Alexander W. Knowles. The ORS informed the Commission it did not oppose The Moving Squad's Application.

The Moving Squad called one of its members, Michael Nicholson, as a witness.

Mr. Nicholson is one of two members of The Moving Squad; the other member is Tim

Quarles. Mr. Nicholson was employed as the general manager of a moving company

from 2012 to early 2019. He worked in the truck leasing, apartment marketing, and restaurant business. He also served eight years in the United States Marine Corps. He has a bachelor's degree in marketing from Georgia College and State University. Mr.

Quarles has been employed in the moving business for 19 years.

Mr. Nicholson believes South Carolina's rapid population growth will provide an opportunity for The Moving Squad's household goods moving business. Mr. Nicholson plans to reach customers by advertising in newspapers, social media outlets, and by word of mouth through a marketing plan that The Moving Squad developed with an advertising agency. Neither The Moving Squad, Mr. Nicholson, nor Mr. Quarles have any outstanding orders or court judgments against them and they agree to comply with the Commission's rules and regulations.

Applicant is exempt from having a safety rating from the U.S. Department of Transportation, and has adequate equipment, facilities, and financial resources to provide moving services. The Moving Squad has obtained appropriate insurance. Applicant will use the bill of lading and tariff approved with this Application. The Moving Squad has purchased a truck and has already hired four employees after conducting background checks and drug tests. The Applicant is also developing a training program with a consultant.

Mr. Nicholson testified that, working with a business coach, The Moving Squad has made plans to grow the business over the next five years, by adding employees and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Order Appendix A.

trucks. The Moving Squad hopes to franchise its operations by the end of the five-year period.

The Applicant submitted the affidavit of shipper witness, Patrick O'Connor, which was given prior to the hearing with permission from the Commission. *See* Order No. 2019-23H. Mr. O'Connor, a real estate broker with Coldwell Banker in South Carolina, testified South Carolina's housing market is strong, and 2018 was the best year in recent memory. Mr. O'Connor and fellow realtors believe 2019 will be even better, creating demand for household moving services. Mr. O'Connor said the public interest would be served by granting a CPC&N to The Moving Squad.

The Commission finds The Moving Squad has demonstrated that it is fit, willing, and able to operate as a household goods mover under S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-23-330 and S.C. Code Reg. 103-133. We also find that the public convenience and necessity is not already being served by existing authorized services. Therefore, The Moving Squad's Application for statewide authority should be granted.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. The Application of The Moving Squad LLC for a Class E (Household Goods)
  Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is approved for the Applicant to
  transport household goods to points and places throughout the state.
- 2. The Final Tariff and Bill of Lading are approved and attached hereto as Order Appendix A.

- 3. Upon compliance with S. C. Code Section 58-23-10 *et seq.*, and the applicable regulations for Motor Carriers, a Certificate will be issued by the Office of Regulatory Staff authorizing the motor carrier services granted herein.
- 4. The motor carrier's services authorized by this Order will not be provided prior to compliance with the above-referenced requirements and receipt of a Certificate.
- 5. Failure of the Applicant to either 1) complete the certification process by complying with the Office of Regulatory Staff requirements within ninety (90) days of this Order, or 2) to request and obtain from the Commission additional time to comply with the requirements stated above, will cause this Order granting the Application to be null and void, and the Application will be dismissed without prejudice. No further order of this Commission is necessary.
- 6. Under the two-month reporting requirement continued in Order No. 2014-443 (May 21, 2013), the ORS is requested to furnish the name and docket number of the Applicant to the Commission, should the Applicant fail to meet the present Order. If such notification is provided, the docket will be closed.

7. This Order will remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Comer H. Randall, Chairman

Justin J. Williams, Vice Chairman

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REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF CHARGES APPLICABLE TO

CERTAIN INTRASTATE HOUSEHOLD GOODS MOVES WITHIN THE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



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# Applicability of Tariff

This tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to the provision of intrastate household goods moved by The Moving Squad, LLC. These services are furnished between points and places in South Carolina.

## 1.0 Transportation Charges

Transportation Charges include the hourly rates as listed below.

## 1.1 Hourly Rates and Charges

Moves will be conducted on a "straight time" basis, with a minimum hourly charge as set out below plus actual travel time. The clock starts at the appropriate hourly rate when the movers leave The Moving Squad, LLC office location, and the movers estimate return time to the office location.

Number of Movers	Hourly Rate			
Two Men and a Truck	\$110.00			
Three Men and a Truck	\$130.00			
Four Men and a Truck	\$165.00			
Three Men and Two Trucks	\$145.00			
Four Men and Two Trucks	\$180.00			
Five Men and Two Trucks	\$215.00			
Six Men and Two Trucks	\$250.00			
Each Additional Man	\$35.00 per man/per hour			

Rates include fuel.

# 1.2 Office Hours / Minimum Hourly Charges:

The Moving Squad, LLC will operate Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm and Saturday 8:00am - 4:00pm.

Monday- Friday	Two-Hour Minimum Charge
Saturday	Two-Hour Minimum Charge
Recognized Federal Holidays-Sunday	Three- Hour Minimum Charge

After the minimum hourly charge, the hourly rates are calculated in fifteen-minute increments. Any interim charge is rounded up to the next fifteen-minute increment. If customers cancel within 48 hours of their move, The Moving Squad, LLC will charge the applicable minimum. Hourly rates are the same, six days a week, 24 hours a day, in every season of the year. Customers are not charged an additional fee for overtime labor.

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### 2.0 ADDITIONAL SERVICES

The following charges shall be assessed in addition to the hourly rates quoted in Section 1 of this tariff, in connection with a move involving additional items:

# 2.1 Bulky Article Charges (per item)

- Televisions (41" or above) \$75
- Pool Tables-\$250
- Gun cabinet \$75
- Steel Gun Cabinet (in excess of 400 lbs.) \$150
- Hot Tubs, Whirlpools \$350
- Riding Lawnmowers-\$150
- Freezers \$75
- Golf Carts \$250
- Pianos \$75.00 [Upright] or \$150.00 [Baby Grand & Grands].

# 2.2 Elevator or Stair Carry

The Moving Squad, LLC does not charge an additional fee for elevator or stair carry, except as specified in Section 2.1 above.

# 2.3 Excessive Distance or Long Carry Charges

The Moving Squad, LLC does not charge an additional fee for carrying articles an excessive distance from the motor vehicle.

## 2.4 Pick Up and Delivery

The Moving Squad, LLC does not charge an additional fee for making additional pick- ups or deliveries after the initial stop.

### 2.5 Packing and Unpacking

2.5.1 The Moving Squad, LLC does not charge an additional fee for packing and unpacking. The packing rate is the same as the hourly rate listed in Section 1; plus, the market price of packing materials, including sales tax on the materials.

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2.5.2 The Moving Squad, LLC is not responsible for items packed by the customer. Boxes containing fragile or breakable items must be properly labeled. The Moving Squad, LLC reserves the right to decline any moves consisting of extremely large or fragile items.

# 2.6 Articles, Special Servicing

The rates and charges in this tariff do not include servicing or connection of appliances such as freezers, refrigerators, computer equipment, washers, dryers, televisions, and similar articles.

# 2.7 Waiting Time

The customer is charged the rates specified in Section 1 for all waiting time or delays not at the fault of The Moving Squad, LLC.

## 2.8. Overnight Storage

If customer's items are stored on a truck overnight there will be a charge of \$55.00 per night, per truck.

## 3.0 RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### 3.1 Claims

- 3.1.1 All claims for loss, damage or overcharge must be written and should be attached to the Bill of Lading.
- 3.1.2 Claimant must immediately notify carrier of all claims for concealed damage. The Moving Squad, LLC must be given reasonable opportunity to inspect damaged items in original packing.
- 3.1.3 Although our movers will be careful with your possessions, from time to time damages may occur. If damages are caused by our service, The Moving Squad, LLC reserves the right to repair the damage(s) in question. If we determine that damages can not be repaired, we reserve the right to either replace or compensate (actual cash value) for the damage. If there is damage, notify The Moving Squad, LLC immediately. They will complete a Damage Report before they leave your site. If you discover damage after the move, call the office within 96 hours of your move. No damage claims will be honored until the charges for moving services are paid in full. You will be asked to sign a Release of Liability acknowledging this.

## 3.2 Computing Charges

The Moving Squad, LLC rates are computed by multiplying the applicable hourly rate by the time as provided in Section 1.

# 3.3 Governing Publications

The Moving Squad, LLC rates and charges are governed by the terms and conditions of this tariff, and the Rules and Regulations of the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

## 3.4 Items of Particular Value

The Moving Squad, LLC does not assume any liability whatsoever for documents, currency, credit cards, jewelry, watches, precious stones or articles of extraordinary value including accounts, bills, deeds, evidences of debt, securities, notes, postage stamps, stamp collections, trading stamps, revenue stamps, letters or packets of letters, alcoholic beverages, firearms, coin collections, articles of peculiarly inherent or intrinsic value, precious metals or articles manufactured there from. The Moving Squad, LLC will not accept responsibility for safe delivery of such articles if they come into The Moving Squad, LLC possession with or without The Moving Squad, LLC knowledge.

### 3.5 Bill of Lading, Contract Terms, and Conditions

Each customer will be provided with a copy of The Moving Squad, LLC Bill of Lading. The terms and conditions of the Bill of Lading, attached hereto, are hereby incorporated by reference.

### 3.6 Delays

The Moving Squad, LLC shall not be liable for any damages, delays in transporting household goods resulting from an act of God or fault or neglect of any unforeseen entities.

## **SECTION 4**

#### 4.0 PROMOTIONS

The Moving Squad, LLC shall apply the following promotions, in a uniform and nondiscriminatory fashion:

# 4.1 Military/Senior Citizens/Police/First Responders

A promotional rate discount of 10% will be applied to normal hourly service charges for moving, packing and unpacking items listed below will be applied for customers who are active duty military, disabled veterans, and Police Officers and First Responders, and senior citizens that provide proper proof of same. Extra chargeable items will follow rates in Section 2. 2.1. Moves will be conducted on a "straight time" basis, with a minimum hourly charge as set out below plus actual travel time. The clock starts at the appropriate hourly rate when the movers leave the The Moving Squad, LLC office location, and the movers estimate return time to the office location.

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## UNIFORM HOUSEHOLD GOODS BILL OF LADING AND FREIGHT BILL

Moving Squad, LLC 150 Drooping Leaf Drive Lexington SC 29072 (803) 348-2023

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LBIN PRINTING INC., 1290 MOTOR PARKAWA, HALIPPAUGE, NY 1.1748 (501) 582-6900

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### CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Bec. 1. (a) The carrier or party in possession of any of the property herein described shall be liable as at common law for any loss thereof or damage therete, except as hereinafter provided.

- (b) No carrier or party in possession of all or any of the property herein described shall be liable for any less thereof or damage thereto or delay caused by the act of God, the public enemy, the acts of public subority, quaranthe, riots, strikes, perils of navigation, the act or default of the shipper or owner, the nature of the property or defect or inherent vice therein. Except in case of negligence of the carrier or party in possession, no carrier or party in possession of all or any of the property herein described shall be liable for the loss or damage thereto or responsible for its condition, operation or functioning, whether or not such property or any part of it is packed, unpacked, or packed and unpacked by the shipper or its agent or the carrier or its agent. Except in case of negligence of the carrier or party in possession no carrier or party in possession and all or any of the property herein described shall be liable for damage to or loss of contents of pieces of furniture, craises, bundles, cartons, buxes, barrels or other containers unless such contents are open for the carrier's inspection and then only for such articles as are specifically listed by the shipper and receipted for by the carrier or its agent.
- (e) Except in case of negligence of the carrier or party in possession, the carrier or party in possession of any of the property herein described shall not be liable for delay caused by highway obstruction, or faulty or impossable highway, or lack of capacity of any highway, bridge, or ferry, or caused by breakdown or mechanical defect of volicies or equipment.
- (d) Except in case of negligence of the carrier or party in possession the carrier or party in possession shall not be liable for loss, damage, or delay occurring while the property is stopped and held or stored in transit upon request of the shipper, owner, or party entitled to make such request, whether such request was made before or after the carrier comes into possession of the property.
- (e) In case of quarantine the property may be discharged at the risk and expense of the owners into quarantine depot or elsewhere, as required by quarantine regulations, or authorities, and in such case, carrier's responsibility shall cease when the property in so discharged, or property may be returned by carrier at owner's expense to shipping point earning charges both ways. Quarantine expenses of whatever nature or kind upon or in respect to property shall be borne by the owners of the property or be a lien thereon. The carrior shall not be liable for loss or damage occasional by fundigation or disinfection or other acts done or required by quarantine regulations or nutborities even though the same may have been done by carrier's officers, agents, or employees, nor for detailion, loss, or damage of any kind occasional by quarantine or the enforcement thereof. No carrior shall be liable, except in case of negligence, for any mistake or inaccuracy in any information furnished by the carrier, its agents, or officers, as to quarantine laws or regulations. The shipper shall hold the carriers harmless from any expense they may incur, or damages they may be required to pay, by reason of the introduction of the property covered by this contract into any place against the quarantine laws or required to effect at such place.
- Sec. 2. (a) No carrier is bound to transport said property by any particular achedule, vehicle, train or vessel or otherwise than with reasonable dispatch. Every carrier shall have the right in case of physical necessity to forward said property by any carrier or route between the point of shipment and the point of destination. In all cases not prohibited by law, where a lower value than actual value has been represented in writing by the shipper or has been agreed upon in writing as the released value of the property as determined by the classification or tariffs upon which the rate is based, such lower value shall be the maximum amount to be recovered, whether or not such loss or damage occurs from negligence.
- (b) As a condition precedent to recovery, claims must be filed in writing with the receiving or delivering carrier, or carrier issuing this bill of lading, or earrier in possession of the property when the loss, damage, injury or delay occurred, within 90 days after delivery of the property (or in case of export traffic, within nine months after delivery at post of export) or, in case of failure to make delivery, then within nine months uffer a reasonable time. For delivery has elapsed; and suits shall be instituted against any currier only within two years and one day from the day when notice in writing is given by the currier to the claimant that of the carrier has disultowed the claim or may part or parts thereof specified in the notice. Where claims are not filed or suits are not instituted thereon in accordance with the foregoing provisions, no carrier herounder Contact and such claims will not be paid.
- (c) Any carrier or party liable on account of loss or damage to any of said property shall have the full benefit of any insurance that may have been effected upon or on account of said property so far as this shall not avoid the policies or contracts of insurance; provided that the carrier reimburse the claimant for the premium of pull thereon.
- Sec. 3. Except where such service is required as the result of conrier's negligence, all property shall be subject to necessary cooperage, packing and repacking at Countries cost.
- Sec. 4. (a) Property not received by the party entitled to receive it within the free time (it any) allowed by tariffs lawfully on file (such free time to be computed as therein provided) after notice of the arrival of the property at destination or at the part of export (if intended for export) has been duly sent or given, and after the property for additivery at destination, or at the time tender of delivery of the property to the party entitled to receive it or at the address given for delivery has been made, may be kept in vehicle, warehouse or place of business of the carrier, subject to the tariff charge for course's responsibility as warehouseman, only, or at the option of the carrier, may be removed to and stored in a warehouse at the point of delivery or at other available points, at the oct of the owner, and there held without liability on the part of the carrier, and subject to a lien for all transportation and other lawful charges, including a reasonable charge for storage. In the ovent the consignee can not be found at the address given for delivery, then in that event, notice of the placing of such goods on warehouse shall be left at the address given for delivery and mailed to any other address given on the bill of lading for notification, showing the warehouse in which such property has been placed, subject to the provisions of this paragraph.
- (b) Where nonperiabable property which has been transported to destination hereender is refused by consignee or the party entitled to receive it upon tender of delivery or said consignee or party entitled to receive it fails to receive it of the property at destination shall have been duly sent or given, the carrier may sell the same at public switton to the highest hidder, at such place as may be designated by the carrier; provided, that the carrier shall have first malice, sent, or given to the consignor notice that the property has been refused or remains unclaimed, as the case may be, and that it will be subject to aske under the terms of the bill of lading if disposition be not arranged for, and shall have published notice containing a description of the property, the name of the party to whom consigned, and the time and place of sale, once a week for two successive weeks, in a newspaper of general circulation at the place of sale or nearest place where such newspaper is published; provided, that 30 days shall have elapsed before publication of notice of sale after said notice that the property was refused or romains unclaimed was mailed, sent, or given.
- (c) Where perishable property which has been transported herounder to dustination is refused by consignee or party entitled to receive it, or consignee or party 0 entitled to receive it promptly, the carrier may, in its discretion, to prevent deterioration or further deterioration, sell the same to the best advantage at private or public sale: provided, that if there he time for service of notification to the consigner or owner of the refusel of the property or the failure—to receive it and request for disposition of the property, such notification shall be given, in such manner as the exercise of dus diligence requires, before the property—is soil.
- (d) Where the procedure provided for in the two paragraphs last preceding is not possible, it is agreed that nothing contained in said maragraphs shall be construed to abridge the right of the carrier at its option to sell the property under such circumstances and in such manner as may be authorized by law.
- (e) The proceeds of any sale made under this section shall be applied by the carrier to the payment of advances, tariff charges, packing, atomage, and any other lawful charges and the expense of notice, advertisament, sale, and other necessary expense and of caring for and maintaining the property, if proper care of the same requires aposisi expense; and should there be a balance, it shall be naid to the owner of the property sold hereunder.
- (1) Where the carrier is directed to load property from (or render any services at) a place or places at which the consignor or his agent is not present, the property shall be at the risk of the owner before leading.
- Where the carrier is directed to unload or deliver property (or render any acrvices) at the place or places at which the consignes or its agent is not present, the property shall be at the risk of the owner after unloading or delivery.
- Sec. 5. No Carrier hereunder will carry or be liable in any way for any documents, specie, or for any articles of extraordinary value not specifically rated in the published classifications or tariffs unless a special agreement to do so and a stipulated value of the articles are endorsed hereon.

  Sec. 5. Replosives or dangerous goods will not be accepted for shipment. Every party whether principal or agent shipping such goods shall be liable for and indemnify the carrier against all loss or damage caused by such goods and carrier will not be liable for safe delivery of the shipment.
- nify the carrier against all loss or damage caused by such goods and carrier will not be liable for safe delivery of the shipment.

  See, 7. The owner or consignee shall pay the advances, tariff charges, packing and storage, if any, and all other lawful charges accruing on anid property; but, the fine intances where it may lawfully be authorized to do so, no cartrer shall deliver or relinquish possession at destination of the property covered by this bill of lading until all tariff rates and charges thereon have been paid. The consignor shall be liable for the advances, tariff charges, packing, storage and all other will charges, except that if the consignor stipulates, by signature, in the space provided for that purpose on the face of this bill of lading that the carrier shall not make delivery without requiring payment of such charges and the carrier, contrary to such atipulation, shall make delivery without requiring such payment, the consignor (except as herinafter provided) shall not be liable for such charges; Provided, that, where the carrier has been instructed by the shipper or consignor, such consignes chall not be legally liable for transportation charges in respect of the transportation of said property to a consignee other than the shipper or consignor, such consignes chall not be legally liable for transportation charges in respect of the transportation of said property (by ond those billed sgainst him at the time of delivery for which he is otherwise liable) which may be found to be due after the property has notified the delivering carrier in writing of the fact of such agency and absence of bonefical title, and, in property, and, (b) prior to delivery of said property has notified the delivering carrier in writing of the fact of such agency and absence of bonefical title, and, in the case of a shipment reconsigned or diverted, in because the shipper or consignor, or, in the case of a shipment so reconsigned or diverted, the beneficial owner, shall be liable for such doubt on the second of the f
- Sec. 8. If this bill of lading is issued on the order of the shipper, or his agent, in exchange or in substitution for another bill of lading, the shipper's signature to the prior bill of lading as to the statement of value or otherwise, or slection for common law or bill of lading liability, in or in connection with such prior bill of lading, shall be considered a part of this bill of lading as fully as if the same were written or made in or in connection with this bill of lading.
- Sec. 9. Any alteration, addition or creasure in this bill of lading which shall be made without the special notation hereon of the agent of the carrier issuing this bill of lading shall be without effect and this bill of lading shall be onforceshig according to its original tenor.

Order Appendix A
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